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AFP REPORTS ON ANTI-SOVIET DEMONSTRATIONS IN KABUL

OW281235 Hong Kong AFP in English 1200 GMT 28 May 80

[By Dilip Ganguli]

[Text] New Delhi, May 28 (AFP)--Night letters issued by students proclaiming "death to the Russians" and "let the freedom fighters (rezls) slaughter the Russians in the mountains...we will kill them in the cities" were found in the Afghan capital yesterday.

Travellers arriving here from Kabul today said that yesterday's night letters were the first since the outbreak of a large scale student uprising against the Soviet backed Babrak Karmal regime on April 27. "It is quite apparent in Kabul that the students have taken the lead. Even eight-year-old school children take part in the demonstration", an Afghan businessman who deals in dry fruits said.

There are 14,000 students in the Kabul University, 5000 in the six colleges and 80,000 in the 20 high schools in Kabul. "When Taraki came to power, we saw demonstrations by the party members...it was all red...it is all red now also but with our own blood" the businessman, who left his country on the pretext of medical treatment in India, said. He estimated that at least 60 to 70 students have been killed by the Afghan militiamen during the last four weeks.

An American diplomatic courier who arrived by the same Indian airlines flight described the situation in Kabul as "very very bad".

An Indian diplomat who also came by the same flight said that the Karmal Government has not been able to bring the situation under control. "Herat is practically under the control of the rebels...The situation in other provinces specially in Ghazni seems to be going out of hand...No one knows who is running the government". The diplomat who asked not to be identified, however, said that after weeks of demonstrations and fighting, Kabul was "calm, but tense" yesterday.

A senior official of the Democratic Yemen Government claimed that situation in Kabul was "absolutely normal and peaceful". It is a beautiful city, we moved around in the night, we did not see a single Soviet soldier, Babrak Karmal is respected and liked...", the official continued, but the American diplomatic courier who overheard him smiled and winked at the journalists.

Meanwhile, Afghan experts in the Indian Foreign Office feel that large scale participation by students in the resistance movement could create serious problems for the Russians.

The killings by Soviet backed Afghan militiamen in Kabul and other Afghan cities has left a deep impression on the minds of the students. They have taken a strong dislike to the Russians and the ruling party workers.

Earlier reports received from the Afghan capital had said that the present regime was forcing the students to read pro-Soviet communist propaganda. Commenting on the unusual involvement of girls in the anti-Soviet demonstrations, the experts said, the rebels were encouraging the girls to take a leading role, as killing the girls would stir the sentiments of not only the Afghans in general, but the pro-government Afghan militiamen also.

ACCOUNTS OF SOVIET ATROCITIES IN AFGHANISTAN CITED

LD270953 Brussels LE SOIR in French 22 May 80 p 3

[A.Bd. report: "Horrific Evidence on Afghan Genocide"]

[Text] Mike Barry and Joris Versteeg have a horrifying account Tuesday [20 May] of the Afghan people's suffering at a meeting organized by the Afghanistan committee. Both know what they are talking about. Mike Barry is an American ethnologist who lived in Afghanistan for 10 years and went back to that region in February this year. Joris Versteeg is a Dutch journalist who accompanied Hezb-e Eslami guerrillas--one of the groups fighting the Soviet occupiers--in operations carried out near the Pakistani border.

It is near that border, Mike Barry explained, that the Soviets are "putting everything" into the fight, using incapacitating gases, deporting the people they capture and driving the rest into Pakistan. Their aim is to close the border. An example of the brutality of their methods can be seen in the "cleanup" operation in Konarha Valley which gave the following results: Out of a population of 160,000 inhabitants, 37,000 survivors arrived in Pakistan. The others are dead or have been deported. The 2 million inhabitants of this inaccessible region are encircled and their crops have been destroyed by the application of chemical products. They are dead or dying of starvation. In other places, like (Palaa-ye Nadjil) all the inhabitants of a village which helped the rebels (650 in this case) were buried alive.

In fact the genocide being carried out in Afghanistan is now the work of the Soviets, but it was previously carried out by the Taraki and Amin regimes with Soviet help. Taraki and Amin systematically decimated religious people, leading figures, intellectuals--and communists--set up concentration camps and bombed villages. When the Afghan Army refused to do so, as in Herat, the Soviets did it. That happened in March 1979 before the Red Army intervened.

The Afghans have virtually nothing with which to oppose the invader, but the Soviets have pushed extermination to such a point that they know they are condemned to death anyway. Therefore, since they will die anyway, they at least intend to make the Soviets pay as dearly as possible for their massacre....

DOST REJECTS ISLAMABAD RESOLUTIONS ON AFGHANISTAN

For TASS coverage of a press conference held by Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, in which he rejects the Afghanistan resolutions of the 11th session of the Islamic Conference Organization meeting in Islamabad, see the South Asia section of the 28 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

BRIEFS

TRUCK CONTRACT--A contract for the purchase of 638 trucks [words indistinct] tankers and their spare parts was signed this afternoon in Kabul between the khalq union of importing and exporting of the Ministry of Commerce and [words indistinct] of foreign trade of the CSSR at a cost of $25.79 million. [Excerpt] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 May 80 LD]

IRANIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO VISIT NEW DELHI IN JUNE

BK281036 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Iranian Commerce Minister Mr Reza Sadr will lead a delegation to New Delhi next month to explore the possibilities of importing more goods from India and greater economic and industrial cooperation. The delegation will comprise representatives of several ministries including those of commerce, agriculture, mines and industries. This will be the first visit of an Iranian minister to India after the revolution for discussing bilateral matters. Mr Sadr told All-India Radio Tehran correspondent C.V. Raman in an interview that among the things Iran is looking for are textile and agriculture products and machinery. He said India can help Iran a lot in developing its industry.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS ON USSR ARMS DEAL REPORTED

Gandhi Statement on Purchases

BK281254 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] In an interview to a West German weekly, Mrs Gandhi said that India is not aligned to any power block, nor a party to any military agreement. India does not make purchases of military hardware exclusively from the Soviet Union. It purchases arms from any country at prices it can afford. Mrs Gandhi made it clear that India would not turn to communism; nor can capitalism help her. Being a developing country of the Third World, India needs to be left alone to develop according to her own genius.

Ministry Spokesman: Not New Development

BK281252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry today said that the India-Soviet agreement on the supply of defense equipment is not a new development in the relations between the two countries. He was answering queries from newsmen about the agreement. He said India has been purchasing defense equipment from the Soviet Union for over a decade. It has also been getting them from countries in Western Europe and North America on credit agreements. The spokesman pointed out that the agreement finalized in Moscow had been under discussion for over 18 months. Even in terms of value it is not extraordinary, and it is more or less as the Jaguar deal. It is part of the normal pattern of multifaceted cooperation between the two countries in various fields, he added.

DELHI REPORTAGE ON SOVIET AID TO INDIA

Heavy Water Received

BK281626 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to an agency report, the first installment of 30 tons of heavy water from the Soviet Union was received in New Delhi today. An agreement for the supply of 250 tons of heavy water was reached between the two countries in February this year. This is in addition to 200 tons of heavy water supplied by the Soviet Union under a contract concluded in September 1976.

Space Flight Training

BK290919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to India Mr Vorontsov said that Moscow is awaiting the names of the Indian who would be trained in his country for a space flight.

He was addressing a press conference in New Delhi yesterday organized by the Hungarian Embassy to announce the successful launching of Soyuz-36, a joint Soviet-Hungarian mission to explore space. The Soviet ambassador said it takes about a year to train a cosmonaut.

Rice Exports

BK290920 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] India is likely to export 1 million tons of a superior variety of rice during the current year. This will be in addition to the exports of basmati [a rice variety] rice. Five hundred thousands tons of rice are to be exported to the Soviet Union against the import of crude oil from that country. The remaining 500,000 tons are to be sold on a commercial basis. India is exporting rice in view of the comfortable stock position which touches 9 million tons.

ASIAN GAMES FEDERATION POSTPONES GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

OW281243 Hong Kong AFP in English 1155 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] New Delhi, May 28 (AFP)--The executive committee of the Asian Games Federation (AGF) today decided to postpone its general council meeting because most of its members are boycotting the Moscow Olympics. Under AGF rules the general council meeting should be held during the Olympic Games at the venue of the Olympiad. An AGF spokesman said the committee has left AGF President Raja Bhalindra Singh of India to decide when and where the next council meeting would be held.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS MARRED BY VIOLENCE, POOR TURNOUT

BK281619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] A 40 to 45 percent turnout of voters has been reported in the first round of polling in the assembly elections. The polling, which was held in 860 constituencies spread over 6 states, was generally peaceful. In several places, scorching heat forced the voters to remain indoors. About 35 to 45 percent of voters cast their votes in Uttar Pradesh. Barring a few violent incidents, the polling was by and large peaceful. In the Kishni constituency, two persons were killed in exchange of fire between supporters of two political parties. Over 40 percent of polling has been reported from Madhya Pradesh. With heatwave conditions existing in most parts of the state, the turnout was almost negligible in the afternoon.

Less than 50 percent of voters exercised their franchise in Gujarat. At some of the polling booths in Ahmedabad, agents of some of the candidates left the booths by 1500 because of unbearable heat. First reports from Maharashtra say that the polling was about 50 percent. In Rajasthan 50 percent of voters are estimated to have case their votes. Voting was moderate to heavy in Tamil Nadu, ranging between 50 to 60 percent. [Hong Kong AFP in English in a report on the elections transmitted at 1514 GMT on 28 May says: "Violent clashes occurred in Tamil Nadu, which has Madras as its capital."] In today's polling, 5,900 candidates were in the fray. They include six former chief ministers and several party leaders. The second round of polling will take place on Saturday [31 May]. Counting of votes will begin on the morning of the 1st of next month. All the results are expected to be announced by the night of the 2d. New assemblies are likely to be constituted by the 5th.

NEPAL

TWO COMMUNIST LEADERS ARRESTED UNDER STATE OFFENSES ACT

BK270825 Hong Kong AFP in English 0758 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Katmandu, 27 May (AFP)--Mrs. Sahana Pradhan and Hiranya Lal Shrestha, two senior activists of the pro-Marxist and Leninist factions of the outlawed Nepal Communist Party, were arrested under the "State Offence Act", police sources said here today. According to the district police office "in persuance of its duty to see that the law of the land is enforced for maintaining peace and order, two persons have been detained as they had in a public meeting at the 'open air theatre' in the centre of Katmandu township last Saturday laid many sinister and baseless charges. They had also challenged the verdict of the referendum with the express ill-intention of overthrowing the government through bloody rebellion, violence and relentless struggle aimed at creating lawlessness so that peace and calm would ever remain disturbed in Nepal" the district police office added. Meanwhile, the official national news agency (R.S.S.), quoting the Nepalese Government source, reported today "government's firmness to spare nobody indulging in illegal activities calculated to incite violence, rebellion and anarchy in the country".

Both Mrs. Pradhan, the wife of a late veteran communist leader Pushpa Lal Shrestha, and Mr. Shrestha had at the "anti-panchayat public rally" demanded the revival of the political parties and declared that they would not accept the verdict of the referendum because of what they alleged as "wide rigging" and "conspiracy" against the multi-party camp. They had also called for launching agitations throughout the country in order to overthrow the partyless panchayat system which they termed as a "facist system" and claimed that without the political rights whatever reforms might be introduced in the partyless polity they would be meaningless. Meanwhile, Badri Prasad Khatiwada, the president of the All Nepal National Teachers Union, which had launched a seven-week long nation wide teacher's strike in March and April this year, was arrested at Hetauda. About 60 workers have also been arrested in connection with their week-long strike which has already been declared "illegal". The teachers union in a statement had backed the cause of the worker's strike and urged the government to fulfill their demands without delay through bilateral negotiations. The pro-Beijing All Nepal Nationalist Free Students Union has also announced its full support for the labourers strike.

SRI LANKA

JAYEWARDENE EMPHASIZES CONTINUITY IN FOREIGN POLICY

BK151239 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 15 May 80

[Excerpt] President Jayewardene has emphasized the continuity of Sri Lanka's foreign policy despite the diversity of its several governments. The president was addressing a distinguished gathering in Colombo yesterday at the 3d annual convocation of the Bandaranaike center for international studies. The president, who is also chairman of the board of management of the Bandaranaike national memorial foundation, referred to the several governments that had ruled this country since independence. But right through, he said, there had been consistency and continuity in foreign policy with perhaps emphasis on one aspect or the other or deemphasis on some other aspect. But all governments had, as the main theme of their foreign policy, the protection of sovereignty, the maintenance of peace in the region and elsewhere, the adoption of a policy of nonalignment and the fostering of trade. Jayewardene reminded his audience of diplomats and others concerned with foreign affairs that the policy of nonalignment had been emphasized by the late D.A. Senanayake himself when, as Sri Lanka's first prime minister, he had announced over the BBC in 1951 that Sri Lanka did not intend to become aligned with one bloc or the other.

PRESIDENT BANI-SADR ADDRESSES OPENING SESSION OF MAJLES

LD231231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0539 GMT 28 May 80

[Speech by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr at the opening session of the Iranian Islamic Majles on 28 May--live]

[Text] Please rise together and pray in honor of the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution and for their salvation. On this auspicious and happy day the first Majles of the Islamic republic is being inaugurated with God's will. I take this opportunity to review briefly the country's social, economic, political and cultural situation, as well as the general outlines of the solutions which our Islamic Revolution has achieved.

Our first social problem and difficulty, which was manifested in the form of violent clashes and conflicts right from the outset of the revolution, was the problem which was categorized under the ethnic heading. From the outset we based our work on the Islamic principle that the foundation of the country's unity is based on Islam and faith, without accepting that the past discriminations were justified. We called for equality and fraternity among everyone. We tried, on this basis, to approach the problem. But armed groups in various parts of the country, holding the mistaken idea that problems of this kind should be solved through armed conflict, failed to respond to our call and message, and tried, through force, to solve the problem in the way they wanted and in a direction which, from our standpoint, was endangering the country's existence and the well-being of the republic. Consequently, an important part of our forces, our talents and our time and capability were devoted to conflicts in those parts of the dear homeland to prevent the republic from breaking up. Since the presidential elections these groups have shown a greater tendency to resolve the problem through force. At first in Gonbad, and later in Kordestan, they embarked upon an onslaught. As our Islamic policy, as you have just heard in the imam's message, has always been based first on pleas and advice and then, if this failed, on decisiveness, we have acted on the basis of this principle. The issue of Gonbad and that of Mazandaran was not resolved as those groups wanted. The steadfastness of the armed forces of the republic compelled them to accept the force of decisiveness.

Again in Kordestan they followed the same policy. Warnings and invitation to a peaceful solution of the problems and difficulties failed, and further emboldened them. As a responsible official I was forced to order the armed forces to act there with decisiveness, but also to act in such a way, as far as possible, so as to minimize any harm to the local people. Today our armed forces have established the government's sovereignty over Sanandaj, and in these very moments also over Baneh, having already done so in Saqqez. [cries of "God is great"]

I have no doubt that the esteemed Majles will commend the sacrifice of our armed forces, who for nearly 40 days in Baneh exercised unprecedented patience and steadfastness in the face of constant attacks, who, in particular, did not succumb to temptations to respond to these attacks in the form of acts of destruction, and who accepted martyrdom in order to remain firmly on the side of the people's rights, and that it will regard the [Baneh] garrison as an example of steadfastness and resistance in the face of force and oppression.

It is now necessary for me to state that our Kurdish brothers and sisters should know that after all this sacrifice and achievement by the revolution guards, the army and other forces of law and order we shall not under any circumstances abandon what has been achieved with all this sacrifice. [cries of "God is great"]

The people in that part of the country should have full confidence that the central government and the head of the government will impose the sovereignty that is based on the nation's revolution and the lawful manifestation of the revolution, namely the Constitution, everywhere in the country. Naturally, they will be concerned or afraid that our forces, the forces which are in the service of the nation and the revolution, might again leave the towns and allow them to become subjected to oppression by those who have left behind extremely shocking examples of criminality and brutal and inhumane behavior toward the people. After we exercised this decisiveness and established the government's sovereignty everywhere, it is natural that the exercise of this sovereignty should be to safeguard the rights of all of these people under the Constitution. This sovereignty is not like that exercised by the former tyrannical regime based on discrimination and oppression, nor have we sought to impose this sovereignty in order to block the path to moral and material development of various peoples of the country. Thus, immediately after the establishment of sovereignty, it now becomes necessary to implement what has been laid down in the Constitution and what has been mentioned in the imam's message--to solve this kind of problem by granting the rights which have already been accepted and to bring about the conditions for all-round development.

The second social problem and difficulty which our country is facing and which was clearly mentioned in the imam's message just now concerns the intense privation from which the majority of the people in our country are suffering. Only yesterday, when I was paying a visit to Chah Bahar, I saw for myself indescribable examples of this kind of privation. Naturally, an Islamic republic cannot witness all these privations without doing anything to eliminate them. However, the solution to this problem does lie in what certain irresponsible groups, or some dependent groups, propose. In this republic one cannot solve the great social and economic problems by refusing to work, by incitement to acts of sabotage, by conflict and enmity and by rancor and hatred. While we must make oral and constructive efforts the basis of our activity, we should also ensure the necessary legal grounds for enabling the country's deprived to achieve their rights. Most fortunately, the tendency toward work, effort and endeavor has been more noticeable in recent months. We hope that this esteemed Majles will ratify the legislation that has not yet been ratified and which must be ratified for the improvement of living standards among the deprived strata of society, and that the ground will be laid for decisively eliminating social and economic discriminations, so that every one in this republic will enjoy the blessings available in this society and in the natural environment of our country according to their ability, work and effort, as laid down in the Constitution.

Since social problems sometimes stem from economic, political and educational problems, our country is not in a favorable position from the economic viewpoint. Those who incite the deprived are not telling them the truth. Our country's resources for solving economic problems are not sufficient to enable us to resolve the problem right away. These problems will not be solved by rash decisions and even more rash actions for, as you have heard in the imam's message, our economic dependences are numerous. Our government's budget consists of nothing except our balances in foreign banks. For a country that is striving to become independent it is impossible to imagine anything worse than this. That we are in this difficult situation economically, however, does not mean there are not solutions, or that we are unable to find and implement appropriate solutions. There are solutions available and we are able to implement them decisively. What is necessary is an atmosphere of understanding, an atmosphere of constructiveness and our coordinated general efforts to escape these economic difficulties.

If we manage to bring about this atmosphere, internal and external resources will enable us to resolve the problems and direct the country toward serving the deprived in society and the country's full independence. From the standpoint of this government, from the standpoint of the range of institutions that have come about as a result of the Islamic Revolution, the primary and fundamental problem which must be solved concerns the problem of economic dependence. We must look upon domestic economic problems in terms of economic independence. We cannot, for the sake of an artificial welfare, or in response to certain urgent needs, either abandon the program of economic independence entirely or else sacrifice economic independence whenever a conflict arises between two imperatives. The esteemed Majles, in the course of its debates, will determine which areas in the economic domain should be given priority. I have no doubt that our people are prepared to go on tolerating privations provided the grounds for achieving economic independence are laid (?by) us. Naturally, there is no conflict between the move toward economic independence and creating economic justice within the country. On the contrary, we believe that this is possible, and it is necessarily so, for enabling the deprived to achieve their rights is the way to achieve the country's economic independence. For this reason, in the New Year's budget [from 21 March], the banking system of our country has been entrusted with making investments independently as well as on behalf of the saving public, in such a way as to make it compatible with eliminating economic discriminations. Since the government's own investments also follow the same principle we may hope that the economic policy in the Islamic republic is neither Eastern nor Western in character, but is compatible with human freedom, in the Islamic and proper meaning of the word, with the objective of eliminating discriminations in society and solving the problem of deprivation in the country.

From the political viewpoint, our country's problem is both internal and external. In the explanations I provided you with 3 days ago I described the policies we have pursued with regard to foreign policy. Now I would like to inform you that the issue of international relations is viewed in terms of the fundamental freedoms laid down in the constitution within the country. Now a word concerning our foreign policy. Our foreign policy is a reflection of the Islamicization of the country within our own borders. It will not be as it was before when we formulated our domestic policies as an outcome of our foreign relations. We should formulate our foreign policy on the basis of our domestic policies. As we wish to do so, naturally we are confronted by the powers and superpowers in all fields. They do not wish our country to set a precedent by achieving complete independence and by creating an Islamic society which will endanger their world order and which will also deprive them of the peace which they have so far enjoyed within their borders.

This is why, in the solution of domestic political problems, we resort to discussion and decisiveness together; in the sense that in our Constitution both the existence of a party system has been accepted and, at the same time, the limits of the freedoms of parties and individuals have been defined. Within these limits we are ready for free discussions; in our view, our Islamic solution is the best solution and any intelligent, wise person, any sane and just person will agree with this our belief. However, if there are certain groups who consider it below their dignity to have discussions with a republic which is based on more than 98 percent of the votes of the people and who find it preferable to confront it with force and with various kinds of clubs--whether wooden or verbal clubs--it is natural that we shall show decisiveness and shall return them to within the limits of the law. [cries of "God is great"]

Therefore, while freedoms are respected in our republic, at the same time the limits of freedoms have also been defined. All those people who wish to lead the country out of different crises, dependence and deprivations, if they mean what they say, their most fundamental duty is not to create the opportunities for clashes. On the contrary, it is to provide the government of the Islamic republic with the opportunity and the possibility to resolve these difficulties. We hope that through the decisiveness which we have demonstrated in the past and which we shall demonstrate in the future we shall convince everyone of the necessity of free discussion.

Last Saturday, in the presence of the imam, the matter was raised in this vein and the need for decisiveness was stressed whenever it comes to plotting, subversion and obstruction, while the need for debate was stressed whenever various groups desist from provocation and plotting.

As opinion polls indicate to us, the opportunities which were brought about for engaging in free debate made an impact on calming society and enlightening the people about the correctness of the Islamic policy and solutions. Thus, our enemies' propaganda is unsound. We shall not be harmed by free debates, and if they abandon their conspiratorial methods our society is such that it will bow to reasonable argument. We believe that reasonable argument resides in our Islam. In order to bring this reasonable argument to the outside world there are certain obstacles and difficulties which should be removed. So we look upon improper methods only as obstacles and difficulties, and we ourselves do not intend to make these destructive methods our way of doing things. As was mentioned in our imam's message, what distinguishes us and makes us different from others is this very same Islamic morality and attitude, which is a constructive attitude.

A Majles having Western-style majority and minority factions will suffer the same situation which even our own youth today, our own [word indistinct] youth, reject. An Islamic Majles is a Majles for debate aimed at finding the best solutions. The distinguishing characteristics of our Majles compared with other [parliaments'] lies is this very thing. Thus, when we reject destructive methods, when we establish a Majles based on free debate which has a substance completely different from theirs, then why should we not apply this good method to everyone? We shall continue to act as hitherto. Everyone should know, however, that destructive methods are not something against which we would find ourselves helpless. We shall stand against these destructive methods with decisiveness. [cries of "God is great"]

In this republic we give priority to Islam and to spirituality. We know that our people suffer economic privation. We know that social discriminations have not been completely eradicated, and no sensible man could expect these discriminations to be eliminated in the first days of the revolution. We also know, however, that the elimination of many of the discriminations and difficulties cannot be achieved without relying upon Islam's spirituality. Until piety is made the governing principle, until man becomes convinced that domination over others is contrary to [human] values, it will be impossible to liberate society from discriminations. That is why in this republic the governing principle is not materialism. The governing principle is God and man's relationship with God and the spirituality derived from this relationship. In our view, when we make spirituality the basis upon which to solve problems, we can both achieve the solution of the problems more quickly and more assuredly and also be assured--that God willing --this nation will achieve eternal and lasting life. [cries of "God is great"]

From the time man opens the doors of spirituality to himself and liberates himself from the lie that materialism is the only real and true entity he is no longer a destructive consumer; he becomes a creator and becomes constructive; and the cultural revolution is in fact the opening of spiritual horizons to man and the liberation of man from material shackles, thus making man's relationship with God more honest, so that man becomes a creature constantly in the process of development and perfection. Education and training in the Islamic republic will, inevitably, pursue this principle. We believe that with our cultural revolution we will be able to resolve not only the country's problem of backwardness but also the fundamental problem of man today, man who is lost in materialism and dualism, who has become helpless and who is seeking new horizons. We believe that only in this way we can bring about reconciliation and convergence between two imperatives: the imperative of the Koran in the process of change and the imperative of man's freedom and development and perfection, if we can assume a difference between freedom and development. Many people criticize us; certain groups and tendencies criticize us in the domestic and the foreign press asserting that, in the name of a cultural revolution, you are trying to limit learning, or to do this or that, or limit human freedoms--as you have yourselves either heard or read about. But, in the light of what has been said, how can man be liberated when he is constantly in the grip of certain destructive and [word indistinct] relationships; when various groups are at each other's throats? How can man develop when an important segment of his talent and his time are devoted to acts of destruction? If man is liberated from these relationships and is placed in a relationship with God on the basis of Islamic spirituality, he will no longer think as a consumer, for he will devote himself to innovation and production; and when millions of Muslims address themselves to innovation and production one can complete a 100-year journey overnight. Thus, in relationship with God--and only in this relationship--can one achieve speed in change, as we achieved it in our victorious revolution, extend the scope of human freedoms, achieve a true and correct perception for development and perfection and turn those valuable and fundamental Islamic precepts into specific guidance for all mankind.

I hope that in what I have stated I have expressed the basic wishes of the esteemed deputies and that our people, now that the institutions of the republic have been firmly established thanks to God's will and thanks to the steadfastness of the leader of our Islamic Revolution and of our people, are viewing their country's present and future with confidence. I pray to God to make us worthy, to place us on the path of creating a progressive Islamic country and to make our country as is the wish and word of God in the Koran, an example for all countries of the world--God willing. I thank you, esteemed deputies, for our people's patience and forebearance.

NVOI SCORES INTERNATIONAL COURT VERDICT ON U.S. HOSTAGES

TA282117 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 28 May 80

[Unattributed commentary: "The Hague Court Has Shown Its Nature"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Parallel with threats and aggression against our country, bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism is also resorting to other conspiratorial and deceitful measures in order to implement its colonialist and anti-Iranian schemes by any means. The Carter-Brzezinski administration has actively taken measures, under the pretext of freeing the so-called American diplomat hostages, that would lend plausibility to its adventurous plots against the liberated Iranian nation and against the Islamic Republic of Iran and divert world public opinion from the reality of the aggressive acts of the United States against Iran.

The resorting of the U.S. imperialists to the Hague International Court is also among these deceitful and shameful acts. The U.S. Government has brought a complaint before the Hague court and has asked this court to take the necessary measures regarding the release of the American hostages in the U.S. spy den in Tehran. Yes! Our homeland's people are again faced with the Hague court, except without being present.

In the not too distant past, during the nationalization of Iran's oil, the colonialist British Government complained to this court because the Iranian nation attempted to stop the continued plunder of its oil wealth and expropriated the usurping British oil company. However, the historical defense of the late Dr Homahhad Mosaddeq at that time of the just rights of the Iranian nation (?foiled) the plans of British colonialism. Our homeland's people are aware that at that time officials of the British Government were openly threatening Iran with aggression. Official U.S. authorities in statements and through diplomatic means were calling on Iran to exercise restraint and to refrain from expropriating the property of the British oil company. During that period several British warships moved from the Bahrain base toward Abadan and from the island of Malta toward the Persian Gulf. However, the apex of the struggles of the Iranian people and the presence of a powerful and anticolonialist neighbor like the Soviet Union, made it impossible to land troops in Iran and to crush the movement of the Iranian nation by foreign forces. Our nation remembers quite well the conspiracies that were being hatched against our country and nation by British colonialism and U.S. imperialism during that period. The complaint of the British Government to the Hague court was among these anti-Iranian conspiracies.

Now history is being repeated. Again in conditions where our nation has overthrown the puppet regime of colonialism--the satanic Pahlavi regime--and has established the republican order in our country, in conditions where the Iranian nation has launched a crusade to eliminate all the evil remains of the domination of bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism, the Hague court begins to operate, and this time investigates the complaint of U.S. imperialism against Iran. Without considering the legitimate and legal demands of the Iranian people, without taking into consideration the conspiracies and aggressions of U.S. imperialism against Iran and the statements of some members of this court, especially the Soviet and Syrian representatives, the [word indistinct] of the International Court issue a verdict that is according to the desire of the United States. What impudence!

According to the verdict issued by the Hague court, Iran has been requested to release the American hostages immediately and to facilitate their departure from Iran. However, most of the members of this so-called international court did not say anything about the protection by the United States of the criminal shah and its refusal to return his plundered property to the Iranian nation. We will not mention the other contents in the verdict of the Hague International Court, which is full of unfair charges against our liberated country. Thus we observe that the Americans have gone to the judge alone and have received the verdict that they had desired.

This so-called international court, which beats its chest for the defense of the plundering interests of the United States, even for appearance's sake, did not bother to condemn the open and obvious piratical aggression of the United States on Iran's territory on 24 and 25 April of this year, which is a flagrant violation of the UN Charter, or to condemn the concentration of the huge U.S. naval armada in the vicinity of Iran's coastal waters, which is an open threat to all the states of the region. Even in the case of the freezing of Iran's assets in U.S. banks by the U.S. Government, which is a piratical action, the Hague court did not (?say anything), because the tools of its primary operators are in the hands of those self-same circles that carry out these acts.

Yes! History is being repeated. However, this time the wheel of history is turning in favor of the national liberation movements. The Iranian nation has accomplished a revolution and has taken the destiny of the country into its own hands. The verdicts of organizations like the Hague court, with such a wrong attitude, are not worth a penny beside the will of our nation. The Iranian nation is struggling with determination against any kind of conspiracy and aggression and the plots of the imperialists and the circles dependent on them. In this struggle justice is with our nation, and victory will belong to our nation.

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY INTERVIEWED ON TEHRAN TALKS

AU271249 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1011 GMT 27 May 80

[Ferdinand Hennerbichler interview with Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in Tehran, no date given, presumably on 26 May--recorded, all Kreisky answers text]

[Summary] [Question] Mr Chancellor, what are the results of the talks held here by the delegation of the Socialist International?

[Answer] "Well, it must be said again that the three of us have come here in our capacity as chairmen of the socialist parties of Austria, Spain and Sweden. Of course we are at the same time vice presidents of the Socialist International. In our talks with leading figures in Iran we discussed all questions of international politics that are of interest to both sides--problems of the policy of detente, problems of cooperation among peoples, problems of peace in general--and that was more or less the most important part of our--" [voice trails off]

[Question] As far as I know you have met with representatives of all major political and religious groups in this country?

[Answer] "Yes, we can proceed from the premise that we have obtained a very comprehensive picture of the views here."

[Question] And what is your personal impression of your talks?

[Answer] "We are of the opinion that the Iranian side is taking a rather positive view of our visit--it will actually issue a statement to that effect. We are highly satisfied with our talks so far."

[Question] Was your initiative, which might be called an initiative for understanding, designed to demonstrate that it would certainly be worthwhile to talk with these people here?

[Answer] "We believe that the world cannot afford to isolate countries as important as Iran, or to ignore what has happened here. Here a revolution has taken place, here a country is beginning to give itself a new political structure, and we--as social democrats, as democratic socialists--do not believe that such a development should be disregarded by democratic Europe."

[Question] Your initiative has come after a period marked by threats and counterthreats, boycotts, and military operations. Do you think that your initiative for understanding has any chances?

[Answer] "It is certainly an initiative that serves peace and understanding. We believe that such an initiative, if it is as sincerely meant as ours, has great chances."

[Question] "I don't want to outline the American position, nor that of the U.S. allies in Europe, but--in contrast to what you are doing here--it boils down to the argument that it is not worth seeking talks with these leading figures in the present Iran, for various reasons, but that today one can only pursue a military policy, a policy of strength, vis-a-vis Iran."

[Answer] "Well, such a theory is altogether unacceptable for socialists and social democrats. But in the United States the situation is the same as in all democratic nations--there are widely different views on how to solve problems, and we are certain that there are also very strong forces in the United States that favor a peaceful solution of understanding and do not approve of everything that has been done in this field on the part of the United States."

[Question] Do you conceive your initiative as support for the so-called liberals in Iran, among whom President Bani-Sadr plays a prominent role?

[Answer] "We do not want to especially promote any group here in Iran. We are not interested in factionalizing, all we want is to establish contacts with the new Iran."

[Question] "Putting the question differently: Do you think that the leading men in this country are capable of solving the great and pressing problems confronting them?"

[Answer] "Yes, we are convinced of that."

[Question] "I have heard your statement that your mission has nothing to do with seeking a solution for the hostage affair. Do you think, nevertheless, that it might in some way contribute toward bringing the Iran's problems with the West and particularly with the United States closer to a solution?"

[Answer] "Let me tell you quite clearly once more: We have not come here as mediators, nor have we come here to make proposals to the Iranian leading figures as to what policies they should adopt--that remains their task. Naturally, when discussing all problems, all aspects of this problem, of the revolution, we invariably also discussed the question of the hostages. We have come to the conclusion that the leading figures in Iran are fully aware of the dimensions of this problem and that they are also familiar with all its aspects. And we personally feel that, if forcible actions are avoided, if the task is left to the leading figures in Iran, we believe that then a reasonable and peaceful solution will gradually be found."

[Question] In the West it is frequently argued that it is mainly the leading religious figures in Iran who actually do not want the hostage problem to be solved. What is your personal impression?

[Answer] "We have gained the impression that the influential and leading figures in this country are in favor of a reasonable policy. But of course they have to shape this policy on the basis of the existing conditions. I believe Iran is shaping its own policy and we have come to the conclusion that the men at work here are filled with the highest sense of responsibility for their people."

[Question] And what are the prospects for the immediate future?

[Answer] "Good, I hope."

[Question] Are you confident?

[Answer] "I am confident that, although tremendous difficulties have to be overcome here, it will ultimately be possible to achieve the goals that have been set. We are witnessing just now how democracy is taking shape here, and all these are certainly developments giving cause for optimism."

[Hennerbichler] Thank you very much, Mr Chancellor.

KUWAITI AMBASSADOR INTERVIEWED ON STATE OF RELATIONS

LD271047 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 20 May 80 p 3

[KEYHAN political correspondent Mohammad Reypur interview with new Kuwaiti ambassador to Iran: "The Persian Gulf Must Be Free of Any Kind of Foreign Base"--date and place not given]

[Text] In a discussion with KEYHAN political correspondent Mohammad Reypur, the new Kuwaiti ambassador in Tehran, Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasim described relations between Iran and Kuwait as "quite splendid." He said:

"The Kuwait Government approves totally of all the ideals of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, in particular, aid being given to the world's underprivileged in attaining freedom and welfare, and Iran's 'neither East nor West policy.'"

The Kuwaiti ambassador, speaking after his visit to Dr Yazdi, continued as follows:

"The Kuwaiti Government believes that the Persian Gulf should be free of any kind of foreign base and of a foreign presence, whether this be of the superpowers or other countries, and will never allow foreign bases to be established in this sensitive region of the world. In Kuwait's view, the only way to stability, welfare and progress in this region lies in the expansion of fruitful cooperation between the countries of the Persian Gulf. The region possesses every source of wealth, and if cooperation expands, these great sources of wealth may be properly and positively exploited. For example, we suggest that a developing economic program be established. By this, we mean that at one location we set up great steel complexes, and at another petrochemical and machine tool complexes, and so forth. By investing in these large industrial and agricultural complexes, and with comprehensive economic cooperation, the countries of the region will be able not only to bring about welfare and peace for their people, but also to attain industrial and scientific progress and achieve a fine position for themselves at the international level. We thus have no alternative but to begin progressive economic cooperation between ourselves in place of economic competition.

In reply to the question: "Are there any differences of opinion in foreign policy between Iran and Kuwait?" The Kuwaiti ambassador said:

"I would say emphatically that following the victory of the glorious revolution, Iran's relations with Kuwait were strengthened, since there is no point on which we differ in foreign policy. Kuwait is placing at the service of its brother nation of Iran all its forces and facilities and will never allow the enemies of this country to harm or annoy it. From the commencement of the Islamic Revolution, the Kuwaiti nation has supported it on a single front and with one voice."

We asked the Kuwaiti ambassador: "There were scattered reports to the effect that the American aggressors in the Tabas operations used some of their bases in Bahrain and Oman. What was Kuwait's official reaction towards these countries?"

The Kuwait ambassador replied: "As a matter of principle, Kuwait condemns any military operation against any country. We emphatically and officially condemn America for the abortive Tabas operation, and we shall condemn any aggressive operation against the Islamic Republic of Iran. As regards the use by America of some of the bases in the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf, I must say that as far as I know, America did not use any of them in their operations. These rumors were spread in order to create division and disagreement between the countries of the Persian Gulf so that the superpowers might be able to fish in troubled waters.

We Support Free Navigation

We asked: "But the Omani Government officially rebuked America for making use of these bases in the Tabas operations, contrary to agreements."

Al-Jasim said: As far as I know, this report is incorrect, and the Sultanate of Oman has officially denied it."

On the subject of the Straits of Hormuz and Kuwait's policy on navigation in the area, the Kuwaiti ambassador said: "We support a policy of free navigation in the Straits of Hormuz, however much certain Persian Gulf countries support a 'safe navigation' policy in the area (which means that the passage of foreign warships should be controlled by a panel drawn from the countries of the region)."

The ambassador was not prepared to dilate upon why the Kuwaiti Government is not in agreement with this policy.

In reply to the question: "Why does Kuwait not support Iran's oil policy of controlling production and increasing oil prices?" The Kuwaiti ambassador said: "As regards production, we support limitation, and Kuwait's present policy revolves on this, since we could produce double the present quantity of oil, but we do not do so as we believe that oil represents capital for future generations. The dollar rate and other currencies are constantly falling in value while the price of oil rises daily. We therefore produce oil to the limit of our needs, not to saturate the industrial West.

"However, as regards the increase in oil price, we believe that this should in some way be regulated so that it does not ruin the world economy. Increase in the price of oil should be based on increases in the price of industrial and agricultural goods [coming from the West] and should not be such as to harm the economy of the Third World. For this reason we suggest a gradual increase in oil prices in line with today's world economic equilibrium."

Afghanistan Should Be Free From Russian Occupation

On the Islamic conference and Kuwait policy at the conference, the Kuwaiti ambassador to Tehran said: "Our policy at the conference is quite clear. We have supported all decisions and procedures which serve the Islamic world. We wish to extricate the Islamic world from the arena of international strife. Kuwait desires freedom for Jerusalem and an Islamic plan [to solve] this issue.

"On this basis all the Islamic countries must cooperate to free the holy city and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Similarly, the Kuwaiti Government desires freedom for Afghanistan from the occupation of Russian forces. We demand that the Soviet forces should leave Afghanistan's territory as soon as possible and unconditionally, and allow the Afghans freedom to determine their own fate."

We asked the Kuwaiti ambassador: "What measures have you taken to protect the Iranian Embassy from any attack by Iraqi Ba'thist agents?"

He said: "We have protected foreign embassies from terrorist attacks as far as we have been able." He could not say anything more about the Iraqi secret police activities in Kuwait.

CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR REPORTS TO PRESIDENT ON VISIT TO ROMANIA

LD231120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] 'Ali Reza Nobari, governor of the Central Bank of Iran, who traveled to Romania in order to hold talks with the officials of that country, returned to Tehran this morning and submitted a report on his trip to our country's president. During his visit the governor of the Central Bank of Iran met and conferred with Nicholae Ceausescu, president and leader of the Communist Party of Romania, for 2 hours 15 minutes yesterday. He also met the ministers of finance and trade and the president of the Romanian Bank of Foreign Trade and held talks on the subjects favored by Iran and Romania.

QOTBZADEH DEMANDS RESIGNATION OF ISLAMIC GROUP RADIO CHIEF

LD291004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0939 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, our country's foreign minister, in a telegram today addressed to the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, has demanded the dismissal of the head of the radio organization of Islamic countries.

The text of the message, communicated through the Iranian Embassy in Jidda, is as follows:

It seems that a representative of the As-Sadat regime continues to work as the director general of the radio organization of Islamic countries. The presence of this person, who is in fact in the service of the interests of America and international Zionism, runs counter to the spirit and objectives of the Islamic Conference. Thus you should make immediate contact with Mr Habib Shafti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference, and hand him the message as it is essential that his services should be terminated as soon as possible.

PALESTINE COOPERATION ASSOCIATION ISSUES STATEMENT SUPPORTING PLO

LD261716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Iranian association for cooperation with Palestine has issued a statement on the occasion of international week of cooperation with Palestine. The statement says in part: The PLO, despite Israel's frequent acts of aggression which have been and are taking place with the cooperation of America, As-Sadat and the deposed shah, has today become one of the governments of the world, and its people continue a unique and exhausting struggle. The Islamic Republic of Iran, led by Imam Khomeyni, is by their side.

TEHRAN CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN BEIRUT

JN282048 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] A report from our correspondent in Beirut says that fighting has begun again in the southeastern suburb of Beirut between the Amal movement and Iraqi Ba'thist agents.

In this fighting, the two sides used various kinds of heavy weapons. Police sources in Beirut said that as a result of the fighting, 19 persons were killed and 25 others are wounded. Our correspondent's report adds that since the martyrdom of His Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr in Iraq at the hands of the butcher ruling Ba'thists, the southeastern suburb of Beirut has been witnessing bloody clashes between the Amal movement and Iraqi mercenaries.

REPORTS ON MILITARY OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN

Attacks on Government Troops

JN232006 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] The office of the Afghan Islamic Awakening [Maktab an-Nahdah al-Islamiyah al-Afghaniyah] in Qom has issued a statement saying that, according to reliable information received by the office members, the communist government of Babrak Karmal, supported by Soviet troops, launched a weeklong attack last week on the liberated (Jaburi) area, 170 km from the (?Ghezni) Province. Heavy artillery was used during the attacks.

The office added that eyewitnesses reported that well over 600 tanks and vechicles and 70 helicopters were engaged in the attacks. The government troops were violently intercepted by the Muslim revolutionaries and the Afghan Islamic Awakening forces for 3 days. The government troops sustained heavy losses in life and material. They lost 60 tanks and vehicles and 4 helicopters. No information is yet available on the precise losses of the government troops. However, according to eyewitnesses, eight trucks were seen transporting the dead from the battlefield. 200 Afghan mojahedin, including several revolutionaries of the Afghan Islamic Awakening, were killed.

The statement adds that the government troops were forced to retreat from the area. It is worth noting that the area that was the scene of the recent clashes was liberated well over a year ago. The area is currently suffering from foodstuff, medicine and military equipment shortages.

Operations Against Soviets

JN290946 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] In a statement reported by UPI from Islamabad, the Afghan Muslim mojahedin announced that nine high-ranking Soviet officers were killed during clashes in the Province of Badakhshan.

The mojahedin's spokesman stated that the nine Soviet officers were killed during an attack by the mojahedin last week on the city of Bazarak, which lies on the Soviet-Sino border.

The spokesman added that the mojahedin attacked the [word indistinct] airports that lie along the border with the Soviet Union and that 20 Soviet soldiers were killed during the attacks launched on one of these airports.

The spokesman also said that Soviet soldiers destroyed 150 houses belonging to Muslims living in Khanabad during an attack launched for purposes of revenge.

In another development, the Afghan Islamic Party has announced that the party's mojahedin attacked the central prison in the Province of Farah and released 700 prisoners following a battle with the agent government forces, which suffered several deaths. The mojahedin also obtained 150 weapons and large quantities of ammunition and equipment.

REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL DISCUSSES OLYMPICS, RELATIONS WITH LIBYA

LD252106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2028 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] The Revolution Council held a session tomight under the chairmanship of Dr. Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and the chairman of the Revolution Council, in the building of prime minister's office.

According to the report of the correspondent of the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Dr Hasan Habibi, the spokesman of the Revolution Council, told reporters at the end of tonight's session:

Certain conditions have been put forward for the participation of Iran in the Moscow Olympics and if these conditions are met, it is possible that Iran may participate in the Moscow Olympics. He did not elaborate on these conditions.

Concerning other issues raised at tonight's session of the Revolution Council, Dr Hasan Habibi said: Regarding the credentials which have been mentioned in the regulations concerning the elections, these credentials should be approved by the Majles.

Therefore, those people who have certain jobs and who have been elected as Majles deputies should remain in their jobs until their credentials have been approved by the Majles.

He also added: It was also approved tonight that relations between Iran and Libya should be upgraded to embassy level. At the same time, the Revolution Council gave its approval for a delegation to be sent to Libya in order to investigate the fate of Imam Musa-Sadr.

BEHESHTI VIEWS CONFLICT BETWEEN POLITICS, RELIGION

AU281151 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1041 GMT 28 May 80

[Ferdinand Hennerbichler exclusive interview with Ayatollah Beheshti in Tehran--recorded, in German, no date given; all Beheshti answers text]

[Summary] [Question] What would you do if parliament were to adopt a majority decision that were against your religious principles, say, if it were to legalize abortion?

[Answer] "For this, we have special principles in our Constitution, and these specific principles say that no decision by parliament is valid if it conflicts with Islamic doctrine."

[Question] Considering that there are different interpretations of Islamic doctrine, can you imagine that there might be difficulties in this respect?

[Answer] "For this, too, we have some principles. In other words, a combined group [kombination] of jusrists and Islamic jurists [Islamik-Juristen] with [words indistinct] will decide that, and as far as special and purely Islamic aspects are concerned, only the Islamic jurists of the commission will make the decision. In that way, the mode of thinking of these jurists will be decisive."

[Question] "In other words, the final decision will always the rest with religious scholar, and not with the politician?"

[Answer] "No--only as far as the Islamic doctrine is concerned, you understand? Political issues will only be decided by parliament, and not by the jurists--even the jurists in this combined group are not a decisive factor in that respect. Political matters will be discussed and decided by the deputies in parliament, and their decision must be respected. Only if their decision is directed against Islamic doctrine or against the principles of our new (?Constitution) will the combined jurists group then say that this decision or that provision in that particular form conflicts with Islamic doctrine or with this or that principle of our Constitution."

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH STATE MINISTER FORUHAR

LD271038 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0950 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Daryush Foruhar was received by the leader of the nation, Imam Khomeyni, at the residence of the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning. At this meeting, which lasted an hour, a report on the country's current affairs was presented to the imam.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES REVOLUTION GUARDS CORPS COMMANDERS

LD271726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Commanders of the country's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps were received this afternoon by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Guards Corps Commander Hojjat ol-Eslam (?Saleh), representing the corps commanders, made a speech in which he announced the complete readiness of the corps to defend the country and safeguard the fruits of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. Then Imam Khomeyni addressed the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. His speech will be broadcast as soon as available.

BANI-SADR DISCUSSES BAHRAINI INDEPENDENCE

GF271433 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 25 May 80 pp 1, 14

[Interview given by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in his office to AN-ANBA' correspondent Raghedah Dargham; no date given]

[Excerpts] Question: Mr President I would like to hear your views on Bahrain. Do you agree with Ayatollahs Khalkhali and Ruhani that Bahrain is still part of Iran?

Answer: Mr Khalkhali speaks well at times, but at other times his statements are as worthless as those of anyone else. I am not a commentator and cannot judge whether statements are good or bad. If the superpowers had not interfered in our affairs we would be able to confirm the right of autonomy for everyone. This right is relative within a country and absolute among other countries. We should not exclude Bahrain from this fact. It is natural that we should be afraid if Bahrain is being used as a base against us. This is also true with respect to other bases. However if the people rise up and establish their own government, we will accept it because this government will represent its people.

Question: Did you mean autonomy or independence?

Answer: Independence is the result of autonomy. On the other hand, the word independence has many meanings. If a nation demands to live independently and does not rely on other countries, we will agree with the wishes of its citizens. Of course, this must represent the wishes of the people without any influence from other countries.

Question: Bahrain is an independent country and has been recognized internationally, has it not?

Answer: Some countries recognize affiliated countries. Can we consider these affiliated countries to be independent? For example, do you consider Afghanistan to be an independent country?

The government there does not represent the people. However, we will recognize Afganistan as an independent country when the Soviet Union leaves and the Afghan people freely choose their own government.

BANI-SADR ATTENDS CEREMONY ON OAU ANNIVERSARY

LD252147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 25 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] On the occasion of the 50th anniversay [figure as received] of the founding of the OAU this afternoon a ceremony was held by the Somali Embassy in Tehran. The ceremony was held at the Hilton Hotel in Tehran and was attended by Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the Iranian president, and a group of ambassadors from different countries. At the beginning the Somali ambassador in Tehran welcomed the participants and referred to the attempts of the OAU for achieving independence, freedom and unity during the past 50 years.

He said: Nevertheless, many African countries are still under the political, economic and cultural domination of foreign colonialism and are trying to achieve freedom. In another part of his speech the Somali ambassador in Tehran referred to the relations between the independent African countries and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and said: African countries are ready to expand all their political, economic and cultural relations with Iran.

The Somali ambassador also expressed his happiness at the severance of diplomatic relations between Iran and the racist government of South Africa, regarding it as a sign of sympathy of the Iranian nation and government towards the oppressed people of South Africa. At the end of his speech, he expressed the hope that the nation of Iran and the nations of Africa will hold one another's hands and continue their efforts for the sake of peace, freedom and independence.

BANI-SADR, MILITARY OFFICIALS VISIT CHAN BAHAR, BALUCHISTAN

LD271720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1647 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] President Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, together with his advisors and General Shahmehr, commander in chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the commander in chiefs of the air force and navy and also a number of military officials, left Tehran for Chan Bahar aboard an air force plane.

According to our reporter, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and his entourage arrived at Chan Bahar airport at 0820, inspected the honor guard at the airport and then left for the navy base in a helicopter. At the base the commanding officers reported to him concerning military matters. He then inspected unfinished air force and navy projects.

He arrived in the city of Chan Bahar at 1500 and was welcomed by the Baluchi brothers and sisters. The president, amid the cheers of the people of Chah Bahar, addressed them in a speech about meeting shortages in the region. Then the armed forces commander in chief departed for the air base, and after talking to base personnel departed Chah Bahar for Tehran at 1800.

UNREST, VIOLENCE CONTINUE IN PROVINCES

Soldiers Sentenced in Esfahan

LD271405 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 May 80 p 2

[Keyhan correspondent report: "In Special Military Court of the Revolution: Trial of 15 Military Personnel Accused of Incitement to Rebellion Ends"]

[Excerpts] Esfahan--Fifteen members of the Esfahan army air corps [Havaniruz] accused of inciting personnel to rebellion, of refusing to carry out their duties, and of weakening the morale of army personnel have been tried by a special military court of the Islamic Revolution.

After hearing the charges against the accused, the special military court of the revolution sentenced one of the accused to death, while seven were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Investigation of the dossier on one of the accused was postponed, and six were released on the grounds of mitigating circumstances and good behavior.

Hamadan Court Sentences

LD271407 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 May 80 p 2

[KEYHAN correspondent report: Komala Party Member and Hamadan Gendarmerie Sergeant Executed by Shooting"]

[Text] Following the hearing of the case against Ali Ashraf Rowshani, Komala member (Shuresh Pir Mohammad faction), the Hamadan Islamic Revolution Court condemned him to death for the crime of armed rebellion against the rule of the Islamic Republic of Iran and for participation in the recent clashes in Kordestan, resulting in the martyrdom of a number of guards and members of the armed forces.

The court also sentenced to death a Hamadan gendarmerie sergeant for oppressing the people of Kabutar Ahang and taking part in the slaughter of the people of the town during the revolution.

The verdicts passed on those convicted were carried out yesterday morning after being ratified by the prosecutor general for the Islamic Revolution.

Mine Explosion Kills Soldiers

LD231118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY dispatch from Kermanshah, as a result of a (?collision) of a personnel carrier with a mine and its subsequent explosion (?1) km from Baveysi at 1130 yesterday, First-Class Sergeant (Ebrahim Shaki) and [words indistinct] Hadi Nurani Ashtiani were martyred.

During the same incident two other people, named Sergeant ('Ali Mohammad Khoshqadam) and Chief Warrant Officer Mohammad Movaffaq, were injured and were later treated at Qasr-e Shirin quarantine hospital.

The personnel carrier and its NCO passengers were (?en route) to Abu Zar garrison.

Clash Near Paveh

LD241118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent citing the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Paveh, during the mopping-up operations in (Bayangan), Haj 'Abrolrahman, head of operations of the armed assailants and the democrats, and Jabbar Mehrabani, commander of the counterrevolution group, were killed. The assailants suffered heavy casualties during the clash, and a large amount of heavy and light artillery belonging to them fell into the hands of the Paveh Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

According to this report, in order to avenge this defeat the assailants, accompanied by Jalal Talebani's men, attacked the village of (Muryat) situated (?20) km from Paveh. During the ensuing clash between the armed assailants and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the armed forces in the region, [words indistinct], commander of Jalal Talebani's men, was killed and one of the assailants was injured.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Paveh has issued a statement warning Jalal Talabeni to stop plotting in the Owraman region and practice what he preaches and support the Islamic Republic. Otherwise, he and his men will have a fate similar to that of the (Bayangan) assailants.

According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, the governor general of Kermanshahan and the governor of Owraman, accompanied by a patrol group of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, were attacked by assailants 2 km from Paveh yesterday. During the ensuing clash apart from one of the revolution guards who was injured there were no casualties. According to another report, the village of (Muryat) was also attacked last night and sporadic shooting occurred.

Khorramshahr Cemetery Explosion

GF241420 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Five persons were injured last Thursday as a result of a bomb explosion in Khorramshahr's new cemetery. In an interview with a PARS correspondent in Abadan, a spokesman for the Khorramshahr Coprs of the Revolution Guards said the bomb was placed beside the grave of a member of Khorramshahr's armed forces. Five of the martyr's relatives were injured when the bomb exploded.

Bomb Discovered in Abadan

GF241453 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] At 1150 yesterday morning, a time bomb, which mercenary elements had placed in one of the drainage openings along Taleqani Avenue in Abadan, was discovered and deactivated by members of the corps of security maintenance in this city.

The corps of security maintenance has asked all shopkeepers, vendors and other citizens to maintain careful observation and surveillance of all items such as water coolers, covered kiosks, telephone booths and so forth. If any suspicious items or persons are seen near these items, the matter should be reported to the proper authorities.

Navy Fires on UFO

LD251210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] According to the Bandar 'Abbas News Bureau the operational section of the navy said in a telephone contact: At 2210 last night, an unidentified object appeared on the navy's radar at Bandar 'Abbas. The object was fired upon by the ground-to-air defensive [as heard] for half an hour, and then the object disappeared.

Following this report, our colleagues were told by the public relations office of the Joint Army Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran that at 1000 this morning, a committee with the participation of the air force and the navy commanders was formed during which the necessary coordination was created, and the region's armed forces were given certain instructions.

Ahvaz Airport Reopens

GF251607 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 25 May 80

[Excerpt] Ahvaz airport reopened to traffic today. There will be no difficulties for airplanes taking off or landing.

Bomb Discovered in Shush

GF251550 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] The janitor of Kaveh vocational school in Shush informed the Corps of Revolution Guards this morning that a bomb had been planted in the school. Members of the corps were sent to the school immediately. The bomb exploded as it was being disarmed, but fortunately there were no casualties or property damage.

The Corps of Revolution Guards of Shush requests Muslim citizens who notice anything suspicious to report the matter to the Corps of Revolution Guards as soon as possible.

Arsanjan Guards Warn Saboteurs

GF251715 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] The Corps of Revolution Guards in Arsanjan has asked villagers to watch their crops and, at the same time, to be wary of suspicious individuals. Emphasizing that the corps is guarding and patrolling 24 hours a day, it warned that all saboteurs will be severely punished according to the orders of the Islamic Revolution Court prosecutor.

Army Reaches Baneh

LD251942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1800 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] The following announcement was issued tonight by the headquarters of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In His exalted name. Now, when the army column has reached the outskirts of Baneh, we hereby announce to all the armed individuals who during the past month or so have been shooting at the barracks from hideouts in various mountains and through holes made in the walls of their houses and who have inflicted casualties on the army personnel and the guards corps, that they should report as soon as possible to the army unit stationed outside the city and to hand in their weapons. It is obvious that if they postpone carrying out this warning, they will be responsible for the consequences of this disobedience.

At the same time, we ask the inhabitants of Baneh to cooperate with the army units in disarming and handing over these germs of corruption and the causes of insecurity so that the city may as soon as possible resume its usual life in security and free from clashes.

Two Guards Killed in Baneh

LD281147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to the report of PARS NEWS AGENCY, in the clashes between the Revolution Guards Corps and the counterrevolutionary forces in the town of Baneh, two of the Islamic Revolution Guards from the town of Shahpur who had been sent to Baneh were martyred and six other persons were wounded.

The public relations spokesman of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Urumiyeh, speaking this morning to PARS NEWS AGENCY in Urumiyeh, reported this and said: During these clashes, one of the guards from the Urumiyeh guards corps, called Mohammadpur, who had been taken hostage, managed to flee by killing the prison guard of the counterrevolutionaries and has left Baneh. He gave the names of the martyred guards as Shahriyar Pasha'i and Parvis Qanbarpur; and the names of the wounded as Seyyed Hashem Rahimaian, Seyyed Najaf Purqanbar-Ne'mati, Salman Fallahi, Mostafa Karimi and Mohammad Jonudi. Three of the wounded are receiving treatment in Tehran.

Army Takes Control of Baneh

LD281747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1707 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the ground forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued the following statement addressed to the Iranian nation:

In His exalted name. The noble and revolutionary nation of Iran is hereby informed that a dispatched unit consisting of personnel of the 16th Division, a number of men from the army air corps brigade, the special force and the guards brothers, last night after confrontations near Baneh entered the town. While taking control of the town they rescued the Baneh barracks, which has been surrounded for more than a month by the counterrevolutionaries and which, despite heavy casualties, put up brave resistance. The armed elements, which suffered heavy losses, fled toward the Iraqi border.

Urumiyeh Guards Post Attacked

LD261028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] According to a report from the Urumiyeh News Bureau, the public relations office of the city's Revolution Guards Corps reported that at 0155 this morning, the corps' post at Urumiyeh] [name indistinct] road was attacked by unidentified persons using various light and heavy weapons, including [word indistinct], Kalashnikovs, Bernaus and RPG-7 grenade launchers.

The guards returned the fire.

The attack, which lasted until 0255, caused no casualties or damage. A local resident, Khosrow Eqbali Afshar, was taken hostage.

Bomb Explodes in Dezful

GF261320 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] The news service of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps in Ahvaz has announced that once again a bomb has been detonated in the old market in Dezful by Ba'thist agents of Iraq and hirelings of U.S. imperialism. The explosion killed one person and injured five. The bomb was detonated at 1340 today. Investigations are underway by the Revolution Guard Corps of Dezful to identify the perpetrators of this crime. Our correspondent reports from Dezful that as a result of this explosion several stores were damaged and a portion of the bazaar's ceiling has collapsed.

Guardsman Killed Near Zabol

LD271731 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] According to our correspondent in Zahedan, after raiders had set fire to the crops of one of the farmers of the (Dust Mohammad) region of Zabol, one of the fraternal guardsmen called Mohammad Jahangardi, who had gone to that region to arrest the raiders, was martyred in a confrontation. In this confrontation, which took place last night, four people called Majid, Mohammad, Safar and (Samad Ishaveh'i) were arrested. Today the people of Zabol buried the body of the martyred guardsman while shouting slogans about fighting the enemies of Islam and the Islamic Revolution of Iran, especially the criminal America. Government offices, departments and the bazaar of this city were closed.

Kurdish Peshmerga Member Killed

LD281158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to the report of PARS NEWS AGENCY, the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga organization has announced:

Yesterday, in Salavatabad Pass, a number of armed assailants who were sitting in wait attacked a patrol car belonging to the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga organization. In this dastardly attack, one of the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga from Firuzabad near Qorveh was martyred and two other persons were seriously wounded. They were taken to Tehran to receive treatment.

Khuzestan Expulsion Request

GF281410 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] The following announcement has been issued by the prosecutors office of the Ahvaz Islamic Revolution Court:

In His exalted name. O brothers and sisters of Khuzestan, once again the hirelings and agents of colonialism have come to the rich region of Khuzestan, following their disgraceful defeat in Kordestan, to commit acts of sabotage.

While our country is passing through a sensitive period and ominous tunes of conspiracy are being heard in the province, it is essential that our people, while fulfilling their religious obligations, expel any and all conspirators. It is the duty of Muslim families to guide their children and warn them not to be deceived by the conspirators. The Islamic Revolution Court will act severely against those who betray the Islamic Republic.

[Signed] The prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution Court.

Sanandaj Protest Demonstration

LD282247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to a report received, today a demonstration by several thousand people was staged in the city of Sanandaj by the brave, fighting and Muslim people of Sanandaj against the unlawful political groups of the democrats, the Dea'i guerrillas, Komeleh and Shaykh Ezzeddin.

The demonstration was held to pay tribute to the late Mr Shebly, who was martyred by these groups in recent events in Sanandaj while in prayer in a mosque.

The same report states that today a part of the equipment of the Sanandaj dam was plundered by the unlawful political groups. Since this equipment belongs to the Iranian people, the Sanandaj 28th Division embarked on recovering the plundered equipment, placed the dam under its control and mopped up the highwaymen.

Two Guards Killed in Dolama

LD291012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0954 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Two members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Urumiyeh were martyred yesterday afternoon in clashes in the village of Dolama, Urumiyeh region.

The Central Committee of the Islamic Revolution of Urumiyeh, confirming the report, told the PARS NEWS AGENCY that martyr Qardash 'Ali 'Azizi and martyr Mozaffar Ganji, two of the committee's revolution guards, had gone to the village of Dolama to arrest one of the villagers in connection with the planting of bombs in the area recently, but they were ambushed by the man and were shot dead. He was himself also killed in the ensuing shootout.

According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the bodies of the two martyrs were given a funeral ceremony from the Urumiyeh Red Lion and Sun Society building at 1000 today. A large number of Urumiyeh citizens and revolution guards participated in the funeral ceremony.

KORDESTAN'S QASSEMLU SCORES LEADERSHIP'S 'PERSIAN CHAUVINISM'

LD281329 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 May 80 p 4

[Democratic Party of Kordestan secretary general Qassemlu letter]

[Text] Following our editorial on Iranian-Iraqi relations which appeared in LE MONDE of 3 May, Qassemlu, secretary general of the Democratic Party of Kordestan, wrote us a letter in which he asserts that the Iraqi Government has never provided any aid for the Kurdish autonomy movement.

I am using this opportunity, Qssemlu writes, to recall that contrary to Oveissy, Bakhtiar and other pro-imperialist opponents whose counterrevolutionary plots are condemned by my party, the National Kurdish Movement is not opposed to the Iranian Revolution, whose success, moreover, it greatly contributed to. Our struggle is aimed at consolidating the revolution by giving it a progressive content through the granting of democratic and national rights to the various national components of the Iranian population which, after decades of sacrifices and struggles, intend now to enjoy the advantages and new rights. The revolution will be better defended by the people if it is able to satisfy their legitimate demands.

Another point to make clear: Our party has stated many times, even in the worst moments of the bloody war foisted on the Kordestan population and despite the atrocities and massacres perpetrated against our people, that it did not want to overthrow Khomeyni's regime but wanted to obtain legitimate rights for the Kurdish people within the framework of this regime and that it is a matter of democratization even where things have still not been fully and definitively resolved.

In the face of the legitimacy of our demands and the attention for our struggle, including in progressive Persian circles, the bellicose, chauvinist and totalitarian wing of the Revolution Council has set itself to present our movement as the "instrument of the foreigner" in order to discredit us. I note that according to the specific period the identity of this evil and plotting "foreigner"--a sort of satan substitute--has varied: In March 1979, according to Bani-Sadr, it was the Soviets who were hostile to the Islamic Revolution; last summer the Kurds were presented as "agents of communism, imperialism and Zionism". Recently Bani-Sadr, after agreeing with the general staff to a new offensive against Kordestan causing destruction of towns, massacres and an exodus of the civilian population, once more exploited the American hostages affair for internal political ends to try and eliminate the democratic and progressive forces, by declaring without fear of contradiction, that there was a "link between the events in Kordestan and U.S. aggression against Iran."

In short, as far as the Iranian leaders are concerned, as they willingly keep silent about the Kurdish people's very important role in the struggle against the monarchy, the Kurds are incapable of acting on their own behalf and are merely a mass labor force used by foreign powers to destabilize Iran. Their fanaticism and "great Persian" chauvinism--a product of monarchist ideology--prevents them from understanding others, from accepting their claims of difference, of expression of personal identity and of equality.

If such a mentality were to finish by completely taking over the direction of the revolution, it would lead Iran to the disaster of a long civil war with all the autonomy movements of the non-Persian nationalities which make up the great majority of the Iranian population and likewise the democratic and progressive forces which are determined to fight to prevent one dictatorship being replaced by another, brought into opposition against the central powers.

INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL SPEAKS ON ARREST OF KORDESTAN OFFICIALS

LD262102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Mostafa Mir-Salim, deputy minister of the interior, said in an interview with PARS NEWS AGENCY today that the arrest of nine governors, mayors and rural district officers of the Koresh-inhabited areas was not correct in the forms taken or from the viewpoint of principles.

He added: The arrest of this group was not related to their recent activities, and their arrest, when they came to Tehran to discuss local difficulties and not for confrontation and revenge, is not correct from the viewpoint of principles. He said: If these individuals are to be arrested in connection with their past activities, necessary measures must be taken following new investigations. At the end of this interview the deputy interior minister announced: The Interior Ministry has taken measures so that the group will be released soon.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNULS ELECTIONS IN ESFAHAN

LD282211 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2124 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The Interior Ministry today in a statement annulled the second round of elections in Esfahan. The text of the statement is as follows:

In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. According to a decision made at the joint session of the central supervisory committee and based on reports received and usual inspections carried out, and by the authority invested by Article 49 of the regulations for elections of the Majles of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the second round of elections carried out at the Esfahan polling center are annulled. In this statement it is said: Obviously, as soon as suitable conditions are established and at the first possible opportunity, the second round of elections will be rescheduled.

KHALKHALI CONTINUES ANTINARCOTICS CAMPAIGN

Khalkhali Statement

LD281817 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, the fifth statement issued by Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali concerning his campaign against narcotics was released today. It reads as follows:

In his exalted name. All drivers of motor vehicles, be they buses, minibuses, private cars, taxis or hired cars, trucks, trailers and so forth, are hereby informed that as from this date if any narcotics are discovered in their vehicles, the vehicles will be confiscated and used to serve those suffering from narcotic addiction. All travel and transport agencies are requested to take utmost care and prevent the transportation of narcotics by their agencies, otherwise they will be punished according to the law. Anyone possessing narcotics can hand them in to the special revolution court located at (?the Qasr prison). They will not be prosecuted, their [word indistinct] will be facilitated and they might even receive a reward. We sincerely thank the Iranian people, especially the youths who are cooperating with this (?headquarters) and announce that we still need their help.

[Signed] Sadeq Khalkhali, 28 May 1980.

Drug Traffickers Executed

LD290342 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 29 May 80

[Excerpt] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, in an interview last night Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Sadeq Khalkhali, the supervisor of antinarcotics strike squads, announced that at dawn yesterday seven members of one of the largest and most active narcotics rings operating at an international level were executed by a firing squad as ordered by a special Islamic antinarcotics court.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali added: The ring was active at an international level in Asia, Europe, the United States and Canada as well as China and Thailand. The members of the ring were in contact with the mafia and professional killers.

KHALKHALI SENTENCES 'PROFESSIONAL' SMUGGLERS

12 Sentenced in Malayer

LD271206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Malayer that on the basis of a ruling by Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali, 12 more professional smugglers have been sentenced to life imprisonment in Malayer.

32 Receive Prison Terms

LD261713 Tehran Domestic Service in Perisan 1630 GMT 26 May 80

[Excerpt] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, 32 more professional smugglers--who were arrested by the members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Shemiranat, Karaj, Qom, Mahallat and Malayer in the village of (Keysaban) under the supervision of Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali--were sentenced either to life imprisonment of 15 years of imprisonment by Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali.

GOVERNMENT KEEPING 'BACK DOOR' DIPLOMAT IN SOUTH AFRICA

WA291500 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 May 80 p 13

[By Geoffrey Allen]

[Text] The Ayatollah Khomeyni revolutionary government is maintaing a one-sided diplomatic relationship with South Africa despite its total rejection of apartheid.

Since the Revolutionary Council seized power in February 1979 it has had a "back-door" diplomat in Johannesburg, although it has publicly declared its abhorrence of apartheid, expelled the republic's representative from Tehran, and imposed a total oil embargo against South Africa.

But the ayatollah's representative in the republic stayed.

He is Mr M.A.Bastani, who travels on a diplomatic passport and holds the rank of vice-counsul.

While Mr P.W.Botha has given full blessing to the arrangement, Mr Bastani can only negotiate with the South African Government through the Swiss Embassy, which has agreed to accept responsibility for Mr Bastani's activities.

South African Foreign Affairs Department spokesman Mr V.R.W.Steward said the ayatollah's representative operated with the full blessing of the South African and Iranian governments.

He said Mr Bastani had been allowed to continue representing Iran "by agreement and arrangement between the two governments".

This week Mr Bastani refused to discuss his activities.

It has however, been established that he maintains a "deliberately low-key operation" from a luxurious Houghton mansion previously owned by the deposed shah's government.

From the mansion, which sports a plaque proclaiming it the Iranian Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy, I was told that Mr Bastani was "unavailable" to discuss his activities.

A spokesman said the Iranian diplomatic mission had continuously operated since it was established by the shah in 1971.

"I don't think we ever closed down," he said.

The house where Mr Bastani is based once belonged to colourful mining multimillionaire Lieutenant Colonel Jack Scott, who sold it to the shah's imperial government in 1969 for a South African record price of 600,000 rands.

The shah's father lived in the seven-bedroom mansion from his abdication in 1941 until his death in 1944.

Shortly after it was bought by Iran the house was turned into a museum housing many precious items of Persian funiture, carpets and treasures.

In April 1978 the shah's sister, Princess Shams Pahlavi, unveiled a statue of her father in the grounds of the house amid incredible pomp.

Since the house was commandeered by the ayatollah's regime the museum has been closed down and the statue of the former shah demolished.

In October last year the house was put up for sale but later taken off the market to be used by Mr Bastani.